

# Meet our Restructuring and Insolvency Team

Our dedicated team have over 250 years' experience of working in restructuring and insolvency between them. Core office bases for the team are currently Birmingham, London, Worcester and Cheltenham, although we handle matters nationally. The team is 20 strong and head count is growing across the firm's office locations. We work with corporate organisations, lenders, Insolvency Practitioners, and company directors, supporting all stakeholders to formulate viable strategies to achieve the best possible outcomes for those concerned.



## Sam Payne, Partner, Head of Restructuring and Insolvency

T: 03301 075 811 M: 07725 914 791 E: [spayne@hcrlaw.com](mailto:spayne@hcrlaw.com)

Sam is seen as the 'go-to' choice in the West Midlands and London for many Insolvency Practitioners. He also has a national reputation for working with clearing banks, challenger banks and ABLs, helping them formulate strategies to get out of vulnerable borrower situations in the best way possible.



**Sam Payne is a very commercial pragmatic restructuring solicitor who had experience in dealing with a very wide range of challenging assignments.**

Legal 500 2024



## Frank Brumby, Partner, National Chairman of Restructuring and Insolvency

T: 02033 758 316 M: 07980 594 204 E: [fbrumby@hcrlaw.com](mailto:fbrumby@hcrlaw.com)

With over 25 years' experience in the restructuring and insolvency arena, Frank's job involves advising a wide variety of clients, from clearing banks to Licensed Insolvency Practitioners, directors, partners and individuals.

Clients know that he'll work with them to find a solution that works for them and their business and his advice covers all aspects of corporate and personal insolvency, bank recovery, property and commercial litigation.

Frank's specialisms include pre-pack administrations, bankruptcy and petitions, compulsory liquidations, company voluntary arrangements, partnership disputes and winding up petitions amongst many others.



**I would have no hesitation in recommending Frank Brumby as a professional and commercial solicitor.**

Legal 500 2024



## Alan Meiklejohn, Partner

T: 03301 075 821 M: 07841 322 994 E: [ameiklejohn@hcrlaw.com](mailto:ameiklejohn@hcrlaw.com)

Alan spends his time in our West Midlands and Central England offices. He brings over 25 years of R&I experience having worked with and for secured creditors, office holders (of all types), fixed charge receivers throughout the country in formulating and implementing their realisation strategy.



**Alan Meiklejohn understands both the strategic and detailed objectives of the issues and works hard to find a solutions-based outcome.**

Legal 500 2024

R&I



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### Alex Wild, Partner

**T:** 03301 076 553 **M:** 07725 241 889 **E:** Awild@hcrlaw.com

Alex is head of the London R&I team and has a broad practice encompassing large turnaround and restructuring projects, as well as complex fraud and asset tracing proceedings, typically involving cross border elements. His clients include corporates, asset-based lenders, hedge funds and banks, as well as insolvency practitioners.

Alex is a director of the Turnaround Management Association UK (TMA) and on the editorial board for the Association of Business Recovery Professionals (R3) 'Recovery' Magazine.



### Christopher Mackie, Partner

**T:** 02074 005 035 **M:** 07876 555 737 **E:** cmackie@hcrlaw.com

Christopher has both experience and expertise within the sphere of construction and property development insolvency having practised law for more than 25 years representing insolvency practitioners, creditors, debtors, company directors, government bodies and educational institutions. He is on-hand to draft agreements, witness statements, skeleton arguments, as well as performing advocacy, settlement negotiations and mediation.



### Hayley Phelps, Partner

**T:** 01905 744 809 **M:** 07715 060 341 **E:** hphelps@hcrlaw.com

Hayley Phelps specialises in transactional and advisory work. She acts for all types of stakeholders throughout restructuring and insolvency processes to try to find solutions that work for everyone.



### Robin Koolhoven, Partner

**T:** 01242 216 255 **M:** 07384 813 923 **E:** rkoolhoven@hcrlaw.com

Robin Koolhoven has worked in advisory, contentious and non-contentious restructuring and insolvency since 1992 for national and local insolvency practitioners both in the Midlands and since 2018 in the South West. Robin undertakes support work by advising in regular board meetings for companies at risk of cash flow issues and in need of turnaround or restructure which in the last 12 months has included an operating coal mine, a light manufacturing business and a scaffolding company.

Robin works closely with corporate and education teams on restructuring of development projects as well as advising school groups on (in)solvent restructuring.



**He is quick to grasp the key issues in a case.** ”

Client quote in Chambers, 2023





### Stuart Taylor, Partner

**T:** 01213 124 786 **M:** 07469 582 596 **E:** [smtaylor@hcrlaw.com](mailto:smtaylor@hcrlaw.com)

Stuart works in our Birmingham office and has over 14 years of experience in the West Midlands market, joining HCR just over a year ago from a large multinational law firm.

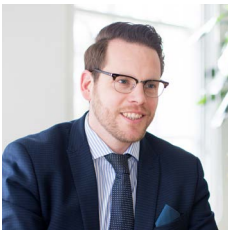
Stuart has experience with advising and working with the four main high street banks, asset-based lenders, and challenger banks; assisting with finding solutions for the best possible outcome.



### James Simnett, Legal Director

**T:** 02078 318 888 **M:** 07557 163 649 **E:** [jsimnett@hcrlaw.com](mailto:jsimnett@hcrlaw.com)

James works with a wide range of clients including credit managers, lenders, private schools, charities, accountants, insolvency practitioners and directors. His work predominantly involves recovering outstanding monies due for non-payment of services or goods supplied. Instructions may extend to a single matter or collection of a volume book debt ledger. James' experience gained both in civil and insolvency law allows him to advise clients accordingly in both a pre and post insolvency situation.



### Paul Grundy, Legal Director

**T:** 01242 246 412 **M:** 07715 060 285 **E:** [pgrundy@hcrlaw.com](mailto:pgrundy@hcrlaw.com)

Paul works closely with Robin Koolhoven on a number of the team's larger assignments as well as having his own contentious and non-contentious practice. Historically Paul's bias towards litigation and debt recovery matters has seen him act on a wide gamut of claims under the Insolvency Act 1986, and the Companies Act 2006. His non-contentious and advisory practice has grown significantly in recent years as the firm's client base and work types have altered and diversified.

Paul is the relationship lead for key R&I clients in Gloucestershire and is well known to our Insolvency Practitioner clients nationally.



**Paul is a dependable lawyer.** ”

Client quote in Chambers, 2023



### Deanne Hamilton, Senior Associate

**T:** 01242 211 659 **M:** 07384 813 925 **E:** [dhamilton@hcrlaw.com](mailto:dhamilton@hcrlaw.com)

Deanne has a focus on contentious insolvency, acting for office holders and directors pursuing and defending claims. She is pragmatic, realistic and a safe pair of hands to deal with a matter from start to finish.



**Deanne stands out because she is one of those people who always gives 110%, she is a perfectionist and makes sure she has thought about every angle of her cases.** ”

Client quote in Legal 500, 2023







### **Helen Green, Senior Associate**

**T:** 02033 758 307 **M:** 07835 380 402 **E:** hgreen@hcrlaw.com

Helen is a Senior Associate with over 15 years’ insolvency experience with a majority focus on contentious insolvency with a range of highly regarded national, regional and boutique practices.

Helen has a large ongoing caseload of contentious insolvency cases and also assists the team with core elements of non-contentious insolvency, transactional and advisory work.



### **Azra Alam, Solicitor**

**T:** 01218 275 668 **M:** 07425 799 407 **E:** ahalam@hcrlaw.com

In every case, Azra works pragmatically with a view to helping individuals and businesses minimise the impacts of financial distress and, where practical, rebuild financial stability.

As each insolvency case brings its own set of circumstances, Azra will adopt a hands-on approach taking the time to really understand the challenges clients face in order to make informed decisions.



### **Emma Lake, Senior Legal Manager**

**T:** 02074 896 324 **M:** 07502 258 659 **E:** elake@hcrlaw.com

Emma has worked in restructuring and insolvency law for almost 30 years and has clients who have stayed with her throughout her career. She works for creditors – both individuals and corporate creditors – as well as for debtors and office holders such as trustees in bankruptcy, liquidators and administrators. In each case, she focuses on finding the best solution; for creditors, that will mean getting the money as quickly and cost-effectively as possible. For debtors, it means she will try to reach the best settlement so that they can move on.



### **Dino Rapelas, Legal Manager**

**M:** 07741 006 158 **E:** drapelas@hcrlaw.com

Dino qualified as a lawyer in South Africa in 2020 and is expecting to qualify as a solicitor in England and Wales in April 2024 following completion of the SRA’s SQE1 exams in January 2024.

Dino’s practice is focused on a broad spectrum of corporate and personal insolvency work. He has assisted the team on complex contentious matters and has also been involved in a number of non-contentious, advisory, and transactional matters.



### **Danielle Jacob, Paralegal**

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### **Maona Wilmah Manyau, Paralegal**

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